Two wolves and a panther formed an alli-

ance in Maine a month ago, if the Bredville

Found All Over the World from Troy Japan and Ohio and from Lapland to Africa and Brastl-A Tousessee Indian Imace of Buddha-What It Stood Por. wWhat does Swastika mean ?" is a question that floored a dozen men of wide reading the other day, as it probably will puzzle THE SUN readers, though the sign is well known. Thomas Vilson of the Smithsonian Institution, who does know, found that the word could not be found in any of the dictionaries or encyclopædias or ordinary reference books for classical antiquiordinary art except the Century dictionary, and, consequently, the Standard. The late Prof. Whitney, the greatest American Sansgrit scholar, saw that it was inserted in the Century, where it is explained as being the same as the

equally unknown fulfot, and you are told to compare it with Crur Ansata and Gammadian Mr. Wilson thereupon determined to put together all that is known about the Swastika. and the result is a report of 300 large octavo pages, illustrated with twenty-five sheets of plates and about 400 wood cuts. The greater part of the report is devoted to what has been written and what is positively known about the Swattka sign, with very little comment; the rest to certain industries connected with the sign, and some inferences which Mr. Wilson feels justified in drawing.
Swastika is a Sanskrit word which Prof.

Whitney defines as meaning "of good fortune." In Chinese the symbol is called war, meaning many-"many long years," turns." The sign is apparently the earliest symbol made consciously and purposely by prehistoric man. Simple figures like the cross or two lines intersecting at any angle or a triangle may have been formed by accident, but the regular Swastika figure, which was formed as long difficult to make to be other than intentional



This is what makes its wide diffusion in very early times a matter of great interest, for the Swastika is found throughout Europe, in Africa, in Asia from Turkey to China and Japan, in the Indian remains in North and South America, and is still used by both the indians of the plains and dwellers in the extreme East. Wherever found it seems to be associated with the idea of good luck or good wishes, but what its origin is or what its first meaning was will probably never be made out. Theories are almost as plentiful as writers.



From the third city of Troy 53 feet under ground. SPINDLE WHORLS.

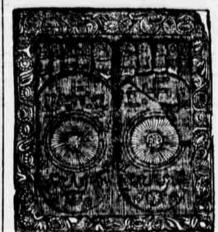
The figure of the Swastika assumes many forms. The normal form represents the arms rigidly attached to the cross piece pointing arms turned to the left, Prof. Max Müller calls the Suavastika. Sometimes the ends of the arms are bent, producing something very like the Greek fret. In other instances the lines are curved. One finds again three limbs instead of four, a form that survives in the three legs in Man. In many instances there are five, six, or more arms proceeding from a common centre, either with rectangular or with curved arms. Mr. Wilson thinks the surred colored lines proceeding from one dians to-day to be only one form of this widely distributed symbol. The curved forms are also common on pottery and on the clay whorls attached to spindles to hold up the flax which are found among all prehistoric remains—in the buried cities under Schliemann's hill at Hissarlik, in the lake dwellings of Switzerland, in the Etruscan tombs, in Mexico, and in North Amer-There is divergence of opinion as to whether the figure was formed from the cross by adding arms to the ends or it come.

HERE'S LUCK TO YOU, Zeua, of Bask, of the sun, of the sun god, of the sun falls, of the sun god, of the sun falls, of the sun god, of the sun falls, of the sun god, and finely the delty of delite, the Great God. It represents Brahma, Vishnu and Siva, Orestor, Preserver, Destroyer. It appears in the footprints



CHARIOT OF APOLLO RESER. From Cyprus.

of Buddha, engraved on the solid rock of the meuntains of India. It stood for the Jupiter Tonans and Pluvius of the Latins, and the Thor of the Scandinavians." One author thinks it connected with the lotus signs of Egypt and Persia; others attribute a phallic meaning to it, still others make it represent fecundity or the generative principle of man-



POOTPRINT OF BUDDHA.

From Amaravati Tope, India. kind. Mr. Wilson himself, considering that the sign is used very widely and usually in objects of very little value, seems inclined to look upon it as having no special divine sig-nificance, but to be merely a charm or amulet, bringing blessing, long life, good fortune, good luck. In this he is induced partly by the un-usual opportunities he has had to study a par-ticularly interesting uses of the supply



STONE SLAB.

A PIMA WAR SHIELD.

shells from Fain's Island, in Tennessee: it is out out in thin copper in the find from the Hopewell mound near Chilicothe, in Ohio; it appears on pottery found in Arkanas, and on that of the Pueblo Indians, on the dry paintings of the Navajos, and on the bull-hige war shields of the Pimas. It is seen on an old war chart of the Kansas Indians and on the core nominal new larges and content of the core new larges and content of the largest new larges and content of the largest new larg



NAVAJO CEREMONIAL CARTER.

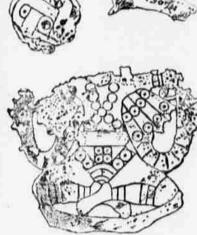


FIGURE ON INDIAN SHELL. From the Toco mound, Tennessee.

From the Toco mound, Tennessee.

Dr. Schlismann, in his sercavation of the seven lines he found at Troy, came upon the symbol if a great many objects, principally spindle horls, rase, and ornaments of precious metals. These came chiefly in the third, fourth, and in cities, none being discovered in the two far leading in the saloment of the saloment of the saloment of a leaden statustic of Artemis Nama from the little city. The number of pieces decorated this he bewastika in some one of its many vastics was \$20. fifty-five being pure Swastika, the Advigna has found the sign on bronze pins the armenia M. E. Chantre in metal ornaments in the Laucasus. The symbol in not found a the Expotian mouneauts of Expot—though occurs frequently in the pottery discovered in negligiesk settlements in Execution. the Layptian monuments of Egypt—though Curs frequently in the pottery discovered in steek settlements in Egypt—at Naukratis Koptos, to mention some late instances, appears on tireek metal ornaments, and cially on pottery; it was frequent in cis, and can be seen on a number to uses in the Metropolitan Museum of Art; as found at Mycene, in the prehistoric cteries and terramares and in Etracam be, but urns and pottery in Italy. Swastiare found on the pottery, metal ornaments, see found on the pottery, metal ornaments, are found in the Vimose bog in Sweden. They found in Angle-Saxon remains and it is to that the name fylifotis given; it Galissan relics, in orisant stones in Scotland and and in many coins. They are also ked on some curious bronze ingots brought a Ashanti. In Africa, by the British expedicible in maning, according to

From the Pittsburgh Disputch, WILLIAMSPORT, Jan. 20. Waiter, the 2-year-

the addition of spokes to represent motion like that of a wheel and the direction of the motion. The question can never be settled. Some think that it was the earliest Aryan aymbol, because it is common to all the Aryan mations, the Hindoes point out, however, that there must have been an extended commerce between distant places among the prehistoric Indians. The objects found in Tennessee and Ohio mounds are made of materials that do not exist in the neighborhood. Large sea shells (fullus) must have come from the southern Atlantic coast, and it is quite possible that it made its way into Ohina and Jaban with the introduction of Both is quite possible that it made its way into Ohina and Jaban with the introduction of Both is mitted there before.

Swatted there before.



BUDDITA.

From a drawing given by the Chinese Ambassador, those revealed by European prehistoric finds, there is so much in the Indian remains that bears no trace of European or Asiatic influence, and is strictly original, that no inference as to migration can or need be drawn. The recognition of the fact that intercommunication between the prehistoric peoples may have been much greater than is generally accepted, is as far as Mr. Wilson cares to go. The inference is suggested by the migration of other symbols and by the appearance on both conlinents of common utensits and forms. Hoth subjects as well as many details of Indian archeology that are not connected with the Swastika sign are studied in the pamphlet.

The author's conclusion is that the Swastika in America as in Europe is asign of anaptelous omen rather than a mark of worship, and that in all probability there was communication, though not continuous communication, between the two continents. From a drawing given by the Chinese Ambassador

old son of William Priest of Muncy, died in convolsions to day, as the result of fright. Last evening Margaret Colley, the young daughter of a neighbor, donned a lideous false face, and ran into the Priest residence, for the purpose of frightening the child. She succeeded so well that Walter screamed himself into convolsions, which two physicians were unable to subdue, and which resulted in death at noon to-day.

KINGS OF THE BACKWOODS. LITTLE SOVEREIGNTIES THAT EX-INTED ONCE IN MAINE,

Queer Results of the System of Planta-tions-Communities Where All the Offices Were Held by a Family-Uses for Maine's Wild Lands and Their Rise in Value, AUGUSTA, Me., Jan. 29.-It is the duty of the Secretary of State; to keep run of the spring eighty organized plantations which occupy places upon; the map of Maine, and if the law has been complied with to send to them once in two years or oftener the official Austral'an ballots for the State and national elections. As several of the smaller towns and many of ply with the law, and hold no elections at all or years in succession, the Secretary of State finds it hard work to keep track of them, and has adopted a rule to drop the plantations from the voting lists whenever they fail to make election returns for three years running. The result is that several plantations drop out every year, and, losing their charters, bec nothing but unorganized townships, with no taxes to be assessed, no school or road money to raise, and no right to vote for anything. The story of these plantations is an odd one.

## the laws of the State. In September, 1840, For Governor Kent, Tippecance And Tyler too,

Until September, 1840, Maine had no planta-

tions. All Maine communities were either

incorporated as towns or chartered as cities

or unorganized townships, not recognized under

Gov. John Fairfield, who was a strong Demo crat, and hoped to save Maine for his party at the November electin, called a special session of the Legislature, and it passed the celebrated townships and giving them the right to vote. These newly incorporated communities of the backwoods, many of which did not consist of more than three families and had a voting population of from three to six, were not large enough to be dignified under the name of town, so the act called them plantati

Engendered in the brain of a fighting Governor and born to meet a political emergency which they falled to overcome in the November election, these plantations have had many viciseitudes. Under the law they could have no selectmen, but instead the citizens were empowered to elect assessors, school supervis-ors, a plantation clerk, and one or more con-stables. They could build roads, support schools, and, above all else, they could vote for county, State, and Federal officers. In plantations where three or four men made un the voting population every man was sure of getting an office. In one plantation, where three prothers constituted the population, the oldest brother was first assessor, supervisor of schools, road surveyor, plantation clerk, and constable. The second and third brothers held all the offices of the first except that of plantation clerk. The wife of the second rother was Postmistrees, and the daughter of the oldest brother taught the plantation school. It was all in the family. As all the nousy for building school houses and constructing roads and most of that for the support of schools came out of the State Treasury, the brothers, their wives, and children cheerfully hired themselves out to the State of Maine and made money by so doing. In their capacity as assessors they could value their property as they pleased, and it is needless to say they never placed it too high. With money earned from the State, sdded to cash derived from farming and lumbering they soon purchased the township which they ruled so wisely, and were able to become sovereign dictators of the whole ferritory, exercising the sway of absolute monarchs.

From 1850 to 1860 the desire to own and rule a plantation was an overmastering passien in Maine. The records in the Land Office and the office of the Secretary of State tell of dozens of plantations, every one of which was Nana found, buried four cities deep, by Schliemann at Troy.

A startling discovery was made recently in the Smitheonian Iustitution by Mr. Wilson himself. In looking ever the specimens sent in from the Hig Toco mound in Monroe county. Tenn., the came upon a mutilated shell, properly marked at the time of discovery so as to leave no doubt as to its identity or genuineness, which seemed to have been cast saide. On this is carved a reasted figure which bears a striking resemblance to the figures of Buddha, as will be seen by comparing it with the Chinese picture of Buddha contributed by the Chinese and the same names of them and the same names of ruled by three or four men. The same names of officeholders and the same names of men who applied for land warrants and settlers timber land as a dowry, and make him a per-petual officeholder in the pay of the State. The girls married and married well, and the infu-sion of new blood in the family community, instead of developing a more liberal spirit generally tended toward drawing the family instead of developing a more liberal spirit, generally tended toward drawing the family lines closer and putting up higher walls against everybedy who was not a blood relation.

How many families would have owned Maine us-day had the practice beca continued until now can never be known. The war broke out and a new ambition came to the young men of Maine. Most of the sons of these back woods princes enlisted and fought well. Those who did not, loet favor by sheltering deserters and runaways from the drafts. After the war the State decided to go out of business as a landowner, Angt was passed empowering Maine to sell at affection all the wild lands in its possession. After this sale there was no more State land for the squatters to take up, and the men who hoped to thrive by organizing, occupying, and ewning new plantations found themselves out of business.

owning new plantations found themselves out of husiness.

The moment Maine sold its wild lands the business of making new plantations ceased. For a time those in existence kept up the practice of voting. Gradually the residents lost interest in a State which had no land to give away, and falled to attend the elections. No returns were received from many plantations for decades in succession. They had the right to vote, but did not choose to exercise it. A few years ago a rule was made that a plantation, which neglected to vote for local officers for three years in succession should lose its right to vote at all, and should revert back to the old township form.

the special properties of the special few years, as a rule was made that a plantation. First years, and a rule was made that a plantation of the special few years, and a special few years and the special few years are special few years and the special few years are special few years are special few years and the special few years are special few years and the special few years are special few years and years are special few years are special few years are

the Allagosh, which occupies the very north-ornmost peaks in the State. It was settled about fifty years ago, and has an area of 88,160 scres, four times the size of an ordinary plantation. Until six years ago every one of the twenty-old voters of Allagosh had cast the straight Republican ticket since 1856. In 1890 the Democratic candidate received two out of the twenty-four votes cast for Governor. A suc-cial Republican arent was sent to Allagosh and effected a reconciliation, since which time the plantation has been unanimous. The smallest porporate community in Maine

and effected a reconciliation, since which time the plantation has been unanimous.

The smallest corporate community in Maine is the town of Hurricane Island in Penobecot Bay, fifteen miles east from Rockland. From 1874 to 1878 stone for the United States Post Office and Court House at St. Louis was quarried and cut upon Hurricane Island, giving employment to mure than 2,000 men. The island was owned by Gen. Davis Tillson of Rockland, who conceived the idea of forming it into a town and laying it our in streets like a city, the poil taxes paying the bills. It was incorporated in February, 1878, Soon after that the Government patronage stopped, and the valuation of the town fell from \$1,000,000 to about \$40,000. The population is new about 250. The men are engaged in cutting paying stones and fishing. The whole town consists of 120 acres, 115 of which are composed of granite ledges and refuse from the abandoned stone quarries. racer. From my experience, and that of others whom I know to be absolute? fearless and cool observers, I must say that the black snake certainly never under any circumstances, pursues, and never attacks unless he is cornered. And as for his winding himself around people's legs, I can safely assert PANTHER AND WOLVES COMBINE. that no black racer would or could think of foing such a thing, unless the person continued They Form a Buntleg Trio and Divide the to hold him down with the foot on his neck or back. In such a case any snake would use every

endeavor by both biting and twining, to free

himself, and there would be nothing strange in Local of that State is to be believed, and the result has been disastrous to wild creatures of I have found it to be the universal rule in all that region, as well as to some tame ones. parts of the world, that when a snake thinks he "Barker Simpkins and Fred Parsley," the Local says, "were hunting over on the Old is unobserved he will lie quiet, and will run or prepare for action only when approached. Pine ridge a few days ago, when they heard a In this country no snake attacks people by winding around them; nor, in fact, in any yelping howl across the awamp as if dogs were hasing a deer. As the sounds came closer country do snakes use such a means of offence, the men made haste with still hunters' cauexcept toward their prey; and even then only tion to two runways that cross the ridge, hopthose by nature constrictors use this method. ing to get a shot at the dogs, since it is against the law to hunt, deer with dogs in this State. All others are absolutely ignorant of such a power; and among them must certainly be numbered the blacksnake, the rattlesnake and side of the ridge, and had waited scarcely ten the copperhead. For a blacksnake, rattler, or minutes when be heard the steady beat of a copperhead to attack by constriction would be just as unnatural as for a bull to try running deer's hoofs in the three inches of snow down in the swamp. The deer came to tear a man to pieces with his teeth, or, as into sight twenty rods a way, headed very nearfor a lion to stand up on his hind legs and hug ly toward the place where the man was seated. like a bear. Every blacksnake will make away the moment he finds himself in danger. If no when a lithe form leaped from a big birch tree branch, hit the deer, and rolled over an over with it. The deer never got up again, its neck having been broken.

"Simpkins was; that surprised that he forgot to shoot, for a minu.e, when the animals that were in pursuit of the deer cane into view. They were wolves, tall and gaunt, with gray hair. The wolves ran without healtantion to the deer, and while the beast that had killed it, which Simpkins made out to be a panther, threat the deer's throat, the wolves bit through the shin of the haunches and ate chunks of the smoking flesh, unopposed by the panther. when a lithe form leased from a big birch avenue of escape be left him he will bite, and bite flercely, but still ineffectually; for in addition to his being absolutely innocent of venom, his tiny teeth are such poor weapons that they cannot cause even a respectable scratch, and are less to be dreaded than the claws of a kitten or the teeth of a half-grown

A STORY THE COURSE AND A STORY THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ADMIN

SNAKES SELDOM PURSUE.

MOST OF THEM RUN IF THEY CAN,
FIGHT IF THEY MUST.

The Cobra May Follow a Man, but is
Likely to Stop When Assured of Not
Being Bisturbed—A Bon Constrictor's
Wrath—Manmurres of the Copperhead.

Many persons believe that snakes, without
provocation, often attack and even follow people. I have for years devoted my life to observing the ways of snakes, and have chased and caught them in many countries, but never either in North or South America have I had a snake molest or follow me without great provocation.

We often read stories of persons being attacked or pursued by the common black racer. From my experience, and that of others whom I know to be absolute?

Ing of, except that he continually repeated the word "slang" (snake). Running out to get what it was all about to the grass by an old the word "make, it didn't wonder much at that word in the structor. I have continued by the dark of the word in the structor and the struct and the struct and thus disabled and incapable of in Running and bruising him saidly. The cobra gliding about in the same spot, but become alarmed at the scentoriton, and advanced toward him. Had he struck a man thus disabled and incapable of insign and defending himself, had he bitted him too close to the acacia tree, dismountant of the word in the same spot, had become alarmed at the sount of the word in t

### A BISTORIC FORT.

The Agitation of Mt. Louis Over a Proposition to Abandon Jefferson Barracks. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I am aware that the average New Yorker knows very little and cares far less about Jefferson Barracks, its situation, its healthfulness, and its possible abandonment than he cares about Egypt and the Nile. But as the agitation in regard to this old army post has shaken the dity of St. Louis to its foundations, has sent a shiver through the entire State of Missouri, and has even reached Washington and the halls of Con-gress, you may like to know where the post

is and how it looks.
It is situated ten miles south of St. Louis, on the west bank of the Mississippi River, and was built about seventy years ago. It stands well out on a high bluff at a point where the broad river bends toward the southwest, and the site is ideal, both from a military point of view and

because of its beauty and fitness.

The old barracks and officers' quarters are built in the fashion of a century ago, or around three sides of a hollow square, which constitutes the now small parade ground, the fourth side being the edge of the bluff, overlooking the river, and called "the Point," as it projects well out, and has terrific-looking old guns, with their noses in the air, sniffing for the possible enemy. Here, also, is the flagstaff, from which Uncle Sam's colors have floated for three-quarters of a century, and near by is the old sun dial, in perfect preservation. Everything reminds one of the past. The buildings are of stone, low, long, and all

are joined together, with whitewashed walls

One is the use of bakers' bread, the other is by using the inner pith of the fan palm of Japan, the factory being in the West End of London. where something like 100 expert hands are employed. The process is still a secret; and, as the flowers are so natural in appearance as to deceive the eyes of an expert, it is considered very valuable. For not only do these flowers look exactly like the real article when freshly made, but as the bread grows stale the flowers assume a slightly withered appearance which is almost identical with that of a flower beginning to be detected by the unnaturally bright and fresh appearance they present after being in the ball room for several hours, but the fading powers of the bread flowers practically insure them against detection. It is believed that for corsage wear, for the garniture of evening and fancy

wear, for the garniture of evening and fancy gowns as well as for house decorations these bread flowers will become very popular. They are at present excessives expensive.

The only factory for the making of artificial flowers from the pith of the Japaness fan pain is quite a small affair on East Bisecker street. Their process is also secret, and belongs exclusively to Mr. Selpilon, the proprietor of the factory and shop. When asked about his flowers Mr. Selpilon, the proprietor of the factory and shop. When asked about his flowers Mr. Selpilon and the proprietor of the factory and shop. When asked about his flowers Mr. Selpilon and the proprietor of the factory and shop. When asked about his flowers of Paris bext fail. My experiments are such as to make mesure of success. We only make flowers to fill orders at present. These roses, showing specimens of La France and Marshal Nells, "are nine and seven dollars per dozen. These chrysanthemums and carnations of course are cheaper. An our process is secret, of course it can tell you nothing about that, only that we get the material from which we manufacture the fabric for the making of the flowers from Japan. It is the pith of the ordinary fan pulm, we employ only a few people, and our coloring matter and methods are known only to them.

These flowers of pain pith possess in a creat degree the characteristics of the breat flowers, the outer petals showing the marks of being bandled just exactly like a natural flower, though, of course, to a limited degree, since they can be wern numbers in times without ever becoming really faded in appearance.

# WHAT A BOYS' CLUB DOES REFECTIVE EFFORTS TO ATTRACT

An Anti-Craps League That Has Reduced Boy Gambilag to Pitching Rutions at a Crack-Isdoor Games and Other Laters talments-Need of a New Buildings The trustees of the Boys' Club of St. Mark's lace are endeavoring to collect enough money to erect a new building adequate to the deel mands of the organization. The present quarters in the old building are entirely too small ter accommodate the increasing membership, and the trustees expect to have the necessary funds for the purcases and equipment of the new building before the next winter season. At the regular annual meeting of the trustees on Tuesday evening the subject was discussed, and the board resolved to devise ways and means to secure the requisite amount for the new building as soon as possible.

The Boys' Club is by no means a new proje ect. It has long been familiar to economic students and philanthropists, and one has only to visit the quarters of the club during its sesse sions to understand the benefits enjoyed by the lads who frequent it. The quarters of the club are in the basement and on the first floor of the old building on the northwest corner of St, Mark's place and Avenue A. The general assembly room in the basement is the main room of the club. It is 30x75 feet, and is furnished so that the boy members may play numerous games of the harmless, healthful variety, such as crokinole, draughts, and dominoes. Some of the essential qualifications for membership are clean face and hands and general cleaniness of clothes and above. Dirty boys are suspended until they consent to come ply with the rule. It is hard for some of the smaller lads to obey the rule, as they pass, most of their time when not in the club player ing in the street, but when a boy has been susmind to keep himself clean.

There is absolutely no discrimination as to membership, for the club is non-sectarian. As they are in the heart of the Tompkine square district, the members might be called a mixed. lot. The German element predominates, but there are Russian, Irish, Slavonic, so no French, and Italian names on the roster, Any boy is eligible for membership, and all he has to do is to present himself and obtain a card, which he is required to show at the door before he is allowed to enter. The card rule aims to

Sherman Evarts of 63 Wall street is the Treasurer of the club, and the trustees request that sifts for the permanent fund to build a new club house be sent to him at that after for the permanent fund to build a new club house be sent to him at that address. The trustees have nearly \$10,000 for the new building aiready and are considering plans. Their purpose is to have a plain, though substantial, fireproof building, with as much stace as possible. Ever since the club was started twenty years ago it has suffered from descritions of boys who, after their four-teenth or fifteenth year, do not care to associate with younger boys. The trustees do not want the boys to get away so young, and when they get the building they will assign the members to special club rooms according to their ages. In his book, "The Children of the Poor," Jacob A. Rits describes the club as follows: "It is by the Bors Club that the street is hardest hit, in the fight for the lad it is that which knocks out the 'kang,' and with its own weapon of our nization." "The first was started foutteen years ago in Tomphina square, that was then pretty much all mud and given over to marriny and disorder. "Kindness conquered the street, and that winter was founded the first boys club here, or, for aught I know, anywhere, it is still the Boys. Club of St. Mark's place, and has grown more popular with the boys as the great have passed."

The average attendance at the club is 159 boys at the afternoon session and 350 at the svening session, and the highest attendance for one ordinary day was 287 in an afternoon and 650 in the following evening. The club is not open on Sundays. The trustees are: Edward H. Harriman, President; Walter Jenning, Vice-Prostient; Sherman Evarts, Treasner Henry Stanford Brooks. Secretary; William C. Hail, May Humphreys, Walter Lending, William C. Hail, May Humphreys, Walter Lending, William C. Hail, May Humphreys, Walter Lending, Walte

To the Rotton of Tax Sux-Sir: I read in The Sup that the Fish Commission had deposited a million tom od in the waters of Prince's Bay, New York. This is tide and wind meets it to carry it back to the States